

THE OUTCROP.

Devoted to the Mining and Development of the Windermere and Golden Divisions of the District of North East Kootenay.

Book VI., Chapter 8.

Wilmer, B. C., Thursday, July 20, 1905.

\$2.00 Per Year.

Lead Duty Increased

Permanent Advantage Will Accrue --Miners Pleased

The duty on dry white lead, now 5 per cent, is to be increased to 30 per cent, and the duty on white lead ground in oil, now 25 per cent is to be increased to 35 per cent.

The foregoing announcement was made by Finance Minister Fielding in the course of his budget speech in the House at Ottawa, and the announcement has been received with great satisfaction by all those interested in the lead mining industry. From other sources it is learned that the collectors of customs have received telegraphic instructions from Ottawa to collect duties as set forth above.

The situation may be best gauged by the upshot of an interview from Roseland with James Cronin, manager of the War Eagle, Centre Star and of the St. Eugene, from which the follow is extracted.

"The prompt action of the Government has done much towards helping the mining situation in the Kootenay. We have now something solid, and what is more something permanent. Its results should be seen immediately and its results will be more and more apparent as the time goes on.

"For the last year, according to G. O. Buchanan, the output of the province was 27,000 tons. Of this 11,000 tons were sold in Europe and 16,000 tons marketed through the local smelters. This year there will be no such 11,000 tons of bounty on sold in Europe. The bounty on export ore has ceased. Then it is the province of the smelters to dispose of, to market, the whole production.

"That is the problem, indeed. Now the total amount of lead used in Canada is about 16,000 tons. The new duties, which cover practically the whole of this Canadian market, will allow the smelters to dispose of, in the Dominion, about 13,000 tons. There remains a difference of 3,000 tons. There are numerous ways in which the products of lead may be sold or yet come into Canada. Speaking as one of the outside public I put down that leakage at 3,000 tons.

"Last year, therefore, there were marketed in Europe 11,000 tons, in Canada 7,000 tons, and in the Orient, China and Japan, 9,000 tons. The new duties will give an added market in the Dominion of about 6,000 tons. Very well, then, it is apparent that during the year to come the market has to dispose of 27,000 tons. For this he has a market in Canada of 16,000 tons, in the Orient of 9,000 and there remains 5,000 tons to be disposed of.

"It must be remembered that the Orient market is something new to us. That market is due to the energy and acumen of W. H. Aldridge. Why, I do not know, but it is true nevertheless, that the chief competitor of the B. C. lead ore in the Orient market, Australia, is apparently dropping out of the competition and W. H. Aldridge is evidently the master of the situation. Australia is shipping to Europe and elsewhere. Therefore we may look to an increased market in the Orient. Whether that will absorb the extra 5,000 tons, of which we have to dispose this year, remains to be seen. But you may remain secure upon this point, which is, that the St. Eugene will not curtail its shipments of ore because of the new duty or because of the creation of the bounty upon exported lead ore. It is far more likely to increase the output.

"And this leads us into the question of the European market. But be it remembered, before entering upon this complicated phase of an intricate sub-

ject, that when the Orient is considered it must be regarded as the natural market of this country. Canada is nearer to the Orient than is any other country of the hemisphere in which we are living. The only possible competitor is the United States, but its production of lead is about equal to the demand. In fact it is slightly short and some lead has to be imported. Europe cannot compete, for it is too far away. We can market our lead more advantageously than can Europe. Australia can be a competitor but, as I have already said, Australia is finding markets other than the Orient.

"Now, European smelters are getting from all over the world much high grade silver ore. Any smelter man will tell you that in order to profitably smelt this, lead ore is wanted. But it must be lead ore of a high grade, 60 per cent or over, otherwise the smelter is paying for much, silver in his transportation losses. Lead ore of the description alluded to is favorably quoted by the European smelters. It is the dry ore that here we pay the high rate, just the reverse of the condition that obtains in this country. Hence the European smelters are giving a much more favorable rate than is paid by the local smelters. Again the price of lead is climbing up. Four years ago the price was around \$12 and \$18. Now it is higher than it has been for years past and is near \$24, consequently mines which possess high grade lead ore might find it more profitable to ship to Europe than to ship locally. When the mines can make \$5 to \$6 better profit by shipping abroad than in having the output treated at home patriotism is liable to have to take a back seat.

"On the other hand it is to be remembered that the bounty on lead obtained up to nearly \$16. When lead has gone over \$12 1/2, it is the same to the lead producer because of the sliding scale of the bounty, as far as his pocket is concerned, as till the time it reaches \$15 1/2, \$16, \$17. Still the whole thing is a matter of fighting. The smelters here will have to come down in their prices. The Huntington-Haberlein process, and the ability of getting a constant and regular supply of ore, may help them in doing this. Probably it will. The market, as I have shown you, will take care of itself. On the whole the imposition of the duty will result in a permanent good to the lead mining industry of the Dominion."

AN EARNEST ADMIRER

A Banker is Much Pleased with Our Resources

Manager A. B. McClellan, of the Imperial Bank at Golden, with his wife and family, has been visiting a couple of weeks at Mr. Forster's and returned home on the Frankfort Tuesday. Mr. McClellan came up the valley to spend his summer vacation, but most of his holidays were very busy ones. He is, without doubt, one of the most enthusiastic admirers of the valley and its resources that has ever visited it. He is not a man who simply says nice things to please people, but to the contrary he speaks with an earnestness that cannot

be mistaken. While here he visited the Paradise mine, many ranches and all of the towns, and these visits were not only beneficial to himself but to all with whom he came in contact, and, furthermore, will doubtless work out for the general good of the country. Mr. McClellan by these annual visits not only benefits the banking institution which he represents by getting acquainted with the people and their conditions, but he has the happy knack of imparting knowledge and encouraging them to do greater things, not dream them all day long, which is so much needed in a new country like this.

Mr. McClellan spent an hour at The Outcrop office one morning and it will not soon be forgotten. He conversed on many subjects during that time, all relative to the future of the valley.

He was pleased with the general hopefulness obtaining among the people and was glad to note the steady progress since his visit last year, especially in agricultural pursuits. He said: "You must be careful here now. The change towards prosperity has merely commenced and it is an easy matter to frighten investors away. Both in selling land and mines you must be careful. The prices asked will have to be considerably low. You must avoid anything like a boom. A boom always reacts in time against a country. You want a good steady growth here. It is not a desirable thing to see land changing ownership repeatedly. It is better to see the farmer holding fast to his land and steadily improving it. Of course, there are cases where men can sell to advantage and the buyer, having more capital, may be able to do much better than his predecessor. But for the present it is preferable that the new arrivals take up the unoccupied land."

"In mining property the holders should ever remember that there are so many other mining camps, each with hundreds of promising claims on the market. You should preach to them the necessity of asking a reasonable price and allowing plenty of time. I do not mean to say I would like them to sell their claims too cheap, but at a fair price. This should be preached until every claim-holder realizes the competition he must meet."

"Now, I like your prospects for a fruit country and farm produce and think it will all do well. Yet I have no patience with those people who talk about 'no market'. That disgraces me. It makes me feel sick when I go down to the boat at Golden and see the amount of unnecessary freight that comes up here. Case after case of canned goods are loaded on—canned milk, canned butter, and all kinds of canned fruit and vegetables. And tons of hay, oats, etc., etc. Yes, I make me feel sick. Thus after time I have went to the different stores in Golden and asked for better and eggs from here and I have never yet been able to get any. Why, there is a good market right here now. There will be no better even when the railway is built, for then the competition will be felt more keenly."

"I should like to have time to visit all the ranches, for I am convinced that the valley will prove prosperous and money will be made out of them. I do not profess to know very much about farming, yet I know and have seen that many varieties of fruit, vegetables and grain grow luxuriantly throughout the valley."

"I think the rancher and miner should be given every encouragement in everything they undertake and an effort of some kind should be made to do this publicly as much as possible. I have already suggested that at the Golden races we have a small exhibition of the products of the valley and I am in hopes that next year this will be carried out. We have an excellent building to hold a small fair in—the risk, I believe that if we can start it then on a very small

scale it will accomplish a vast amount of good and continue to grow every year." Some of Mr. McClellan's statements given above may hurt a little but as they are straightforward blows and well meant, let us meet them fairly and try to remedy the faults.

Your Experience Wanted

Fruit, fruit, fruit! Every person in the valley is now talking fruit. Morning, noon and night it is up for discussion. The fruit fever is prevalent and it is contagious—may it spread. Nothing could be better for this valley than the earnestness with which this subject is now conversed upon. Every phase of it is discussed with interest and this is just what is most needed at this time. The comparing of ideas, the utterance of opinions, and the practical experiments being tried will do more good than all that can be gained from reading books and papers. Nevertheless, The Outcrop would like to be of more practical use to the fruit growers than it has yet been. Yards of reading matter on the subject can be produced but that is not good enough for The Outcrop or its readers. We want something practical, something that will do good and something that will be read with interest. This we can get in only one way and that is by first interviewing those who are already interested.

This is a new fruit country. Then it must be treated as such. We must all learn by experience, but let us also learn from each others experience. This is absolutely good logic. Then, the more practical the better. Now, it is a fact that can be proven and is not disputed that there are not a dozen ranchers between Fort Steele and Golden who do not read The Outcrop regularly. Here, then, is the opportunity to learn the experience of the ranchers for a distance of 120 miles by simply telling your own. Will you do it? Will you, rancher, sit down and write your little experiences, not overlooking the little things, and send it to this office? It will benefit you. It will benefit your neighbor, the valley and this paper. Who will be the first?

Judge Forin Buys Land Here

Chas. Cartwright has disposed of his ranch on the hill east of Atholmer to Judge Forin of Nelson, the sale being made by M. Carlin of Golden. Judge Forin is to be here on Saturday to complete the deal. It is stated that the Judge intends building a summer residence on the lake front and extensively planting fruit trees on his new possession. The consummation of this deal is regarded by the people of this valley as of considerable significance for the reason that it is evident that Judge Forin considers this a more desirable locality to reside in than the much famed Kootenay lake or Nelson district, with all its advertised fruit growing land, scenery, climate and other advantages. At any rate the fact will have some bearing on the valley a good citizen.

Windermere Rifle Association

Following are the scores made at the Lounge Match:

	2000	3000	5000	6000
E. St. G. Smyth	28	35	28-01	
W. Taylor	32	29	27-80	
R. Rose	29	30	23-82	
J. E. Stohart	31	34	23-88	
J. C. Pitts	25	30	17-72	
E. Clark	29	12	24-56	
C. Cameron	25	13	16-54	
J. Tegan	14	27	24-05	
R. A. Kilmont	22	27	15-61	

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Buying Right-of-Way

A. McPherson made a trip from Golden last week up the valley to purchase land for the Kootenay Central Railway right-of-way along the survey on the east side of the river, and another man came from the south on the same business. Their coming created a revival of railway talk and was the subject of much comment.

From all that can be learned Mr. McPherson was successful in getting agreements of sale from the majority of the ranchers along the route, although some regret their actions already. About half a dozen ranchers refused to sell at the prices offered them. It appears Mr. McPherson offered \$1 an acre for unimproved land and from \$40 to \$50 an acre for improved land, and presented an iron-clad agreement that left the land-owner no privileges and the railway every privilege. Some ranchers are quite indignant at the propositions made them and a few quite well satisfied. However, this is usually the case in such matters and the differences will ultimately be settled by arbitration and in no case can it deter construction. The rancher who has not secured his title to his land is, perhaps, the most unfortunate individual. It is claimed that some of the land the survey passes through cost \$100 an acre to clear and that it so cuts up the land that whole ranches will be useless for the purposes they are now utilized for. In such instances it is natural that strong objections are made and that high prices are asked.

Nevertheless, notwithstanding these unpleasant incidents, the people are delighted with this move, knowing it is another move towards early railway construction.

Mr. C. M. Keep states that President Pollen of the K. C. R. Co., told him at Cranbrook that construction is to start at once and about 100 miles built.

Deserves Success

The Outcrop reporter and wife spent part of Saturday and Sunday at Arthur Tegan's ranch, three miles south of Windermere. Both Mr. and Mrs. Tegan deserve much credit for the manner in which they have improved their land since taking it up and that under many discouraging conditions. Chief among them being the water supply. They were told it was impossible to get water, but after three years hard work Mr. Tegan has single-handed run a splendid irrigation ditch over two miles and now is using it. He has also cleared and crop several big fields of grain, besides others of turnips, potatoes, etc. A number of fruit trees are growing nicely and strawberries and other small fruits are yielding good crops. He has just completed a substantial residence that is a credit to the ranch. Mrs. Tegan has not been idle these years, but has helped and encouraged her husband in her quiet way, and besides keeping her home spotless and caring for four bright happy children has looked after a small dairy and a number of chickens. The completion of the irrigation ditch has been the main object during three years and now they feel they have accomplished the most difficult problem to be solved. Yet they have plenty of hard work ahead. Just east from the house a coolly run back about a mile and affords a most excellent location for an extensive orchard which Mr. Tegan proposes to plant as soon as he can prepare the ground. It cannot be disputed that this will prove one of the very best ranches in the valley and the present owners deserve all it is destined to be worth. The visit was most pleasant one and will long be remembered.

A Nelson despatch says a strike rivaling in importance anything yet recorded in the Poplar country for richness and extent, has just been made on the Swede claim. Supt. Morgan says: "A quartz lead has been discovered of indefinite extent, proved for about 100 feet, and uncovered for half that length, averaging about two feet in width and assaying richer than anything I have ever seen anywhere. The lowest assays run over \$5,000, and the best over \$10,000 to the ton." The news has caused great excitement at Poplar and the camp will shortly be as lively as ever it was. Mr. Morgan adds that good strikes have also been made upon the Smith and Rogers and Chisholm properties near to the Swede.

It is a very difficult matter often for a prospector to decide just what his claim is worth and it is even difficult for the expert to decide. Yet the prospector must set his price and stand or fall by his own decision. Therefore, the prospector must carefully weigh everything that is in favor of his mineral claim and everything that is unfavorable. He must not only compare his prospect with other claims in the district in which it is located, but he must compare it with every claim in the province and then set his price and conditions of sale in a shape that will give him the greatest advantage. In brief, the successful prospector must be a shrewd financier.

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22,000 Saw Logs

The steamer Ptarmigan was delayed on her down trip until Tuesday morning owing to the wind on the lake. Sunday morning she started from the head of the lake with a boom of 22,000 saw logs for the Columbia River Lumber Co., but the wind was against her and the boom had to be let loose and drifted back. In the evening, however, the wind ceased and the boom was brought down and on Monday the logs were turned head on in the river, filling it up for over a mile. Five miles below and the crew of men are now driving them down to the mill at Golden.

